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ACTION AF-01

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O 241555Z FEB 94 ZDK CITING MNY SVCS

FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5804

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KAMPALA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE PRIORITY

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION GENEVA

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (CHANGED NUMBER ON PARA 2) STATE FOR AF/C AND DSS/OP/AF

BUJUMBURA FOR RSO

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E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR

TAGS: PINS, ASEC, PHUM, PGOV, RW

SUBJECT: SEMBLANCE OF NORMALITY RETURNS TO KIGALI

REF: KIGALI 792

1. (C) SUMMARY. THE AMBASSADOR AND OTHER DIPLOMATS

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN L. MILLS DATE/CASE ID: 20 NOV 2002 200003723

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ATTENDED THE FUNERAL OF SLAIN PSD LEADER IN BUTARE TRAVELING IN CONVOY WITH UNAMIR ESCORT. KIGALI RESIDENTS BREATHED A CAUTIOUS SIGH OF RELIEF 2/24 AS THEY BEGAN TO GO ABOUT THEIR BUSINESS AS USUAL. BUT THEY FEAR VIOLENCE COULD RETURN FOLLOWING FUNERAL MASS FOR SLAIN CDR LEADER IN TROUBLED KIGALI NEIGHBORHOOD. ALL-PARTY MEETING CONVOKED BY PRESIDENT FOR 2/25 LIKELY TO BE ONLY PARTIALLY ATTENDED. ONE WELL-INFORMED SOURCE SUGGESTS THE MEETING MAY TRY TO REPLACE CURRENT PRIME MINISTER AND HER GOVERNMENT AS A WAY TO OVERCOME RESISTENCE TO PRESIDENT'S PLAN FOR TRANSITION INSTITUTION COMPOSITION. END SUMMARY.

VIOLENCE SUBSIDES ... FOR THE MOMENT

2. (U) KIGALI RESIDENTS BREATHED A CAUTIOUS SIGH OF RELIEF 2/24. OFFICES WERE NEARLY FULLY-STAFFED AS BUSES AND TAXIS RESUMED FUNCTIONING AND BROUGHT RWANDANS TO WORK. MANY MISSION EMPLOYEES, HOWEVER, REPORT HAVING LIVED IN TERROR THE PAST TWO DAYS, SOME NEITHER EATING NOR DRINKING SO AS NOT TO REVEAL THEIR CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 KIGALI 00806 01 OF 02 020631Z HIDING PLACES. OVERNIGHT DEATH TOLL LOWER THAN PREVIOUS NIGHT, BUT STILL CONSIDERABLE IN THE GIKONDO AND NYAMIRAMBO SECTIONS OF TOWN.

- 3. (U) THE AMBASSADOR JOINED OTHER DIPLOMATS 2/24 AND THE FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND POLITICAL SUPPORTERS OF SLAIN PSD LEADER FELICIEN GATABAZI FOR THE TWO-HOUR DRIVE TO BUTARE, THE SITE OF HIS FUNERAL. WE HAVE NO REPORTS OF PROBLEMS RELATING TO THE FUNERAL EITHER FROM KIGALI OR FROM BUTARE. THE CORTEGE IS EXPECTED TO RETURN NEAR DUSK (ABOUT 6 PM).
- 4. (U) MANY KIGALI RESIDENTS ARE WORRIED THAT VIOLENCE MAY RETURN TO KIGALI FOLLOWING THE AFTERNOON FUNERAL MASS IN TROUBLED GIKONDO FOR THE CDR PRESIDENT, MARTIN BUCYANA. IT IS EXPECTED TO CONCLUDE ABOUT THE SAME TIME AS THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE PSD FUNERAL ARE TO RETURN TO KIGALI. BUCYANA'S BODY IS TO BE TAKEN FOR BURIAL TOMORROW IN CYANGUGU PREFECTURE. THIS IS LIKELY TO INVOLVE ANOTHER

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FUNERAL CORTEGE, ALONG THE SAME ROUTE AS TODAY'S; BUT THE TERRITORY IS DECIDEDLY LESS FRIENDLY TO THE CDR.

5. (C) A WELL-INFORMED GENDARME SOURCE TOLD DCM THE KIGALI LOCK-UPS ARE FULL FROM ARRESTS OVER THE PAST TWO DAYS. MOST OF THOSE ARRESTED, HE SAID, ARE YOUTH (UP TO 25 YEARS) BORN IN KIGALI, WHO GREW UP ON THE STREETS AND HAVE LITTLE EDUCATION AND APARENTLY NO COMPUNCTION ABOUT KILLING. HE BELIEVES, HOWEVER, THAT THESE PEOPLE ARE BEING DIRECTED BY POLITICAL PARTY ORGANIZERS. HE LAMENTED THAT THE LACK OF CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 04 KIGALI 00806 01 OF 02 020631Z VEHICLES AND FUEL WAS ADVERSELY AFFECTING THE GENDARMERIE'S ABILITY TO DO ITS JOB. HE IS CONVINCED THAT MOST GENDARMES WANT TO PROTECT THE CITIZENS, BUT SAID THEY HAVE INSUFFICIENT MEANS TO DO SO. HE SAID THE GENDARMES ARE UNDER TREMENDOUS PRESSURE AS WELL: THEY HAVE BEEN SUBJECT TO GRENADE ATTACKS BY THE ROVING BANDS AND INTIMIDATED FROM THE STREETS AND FROM POLITICIANS OVER ARRESTS.

MORE POLITICAL MANEUVERINGS AFOOT?

________ 6. (C) A WELL-INFORMED SOURCE TOLD DCM THAT THE MDR PARTY FACTION OPPOSED TO PM-DESIGNATE TWAGIRAMUNGU IS

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O 241555Z FEB 94 FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5805
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
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STATE FOR AF/C AND DSS/OP/AF BUJUMBURA FOR RSO YAQUNDE FOR DATT

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E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR

TAGS: PINS, ASEC, PHUM, PGOV, RW

SUBJECT: SEMBLANCE OF NORMALITY RETURNS TO KIGALI

ENCOURAGING THE PRESIDENT TO APPOINT A NEW CURRENT PRIME MINISTER WHO COULD FORM A NEW GOVERNMENT ON GROUNDS THAT A NEW GOVERNMENT MIGHT BE BETTER ABLE TO BREAK THE IMPASSE PREVENTING INSTALLATION OF THE TRANSITION INSTITUTIONS. THE PLOY WOULD BE AIMED AT REMOVING TWAGIRAMUNGU'S NAME FROM THE PEACE ACCORD SO HE COULD BE REPLACED AS TRANSITION PRIME MINISTER. THE MDR FACTION IS CANVASSING FOR AN APPROPRIATE CANDIDATE.

- 7. (C) THE PRESIDENT, THE SOURCE SAID, MIGHT BE INCLINED TO MAKE THE NEW APPOINTMENT AT THE ALL-PARTY MEETING HE ANNOUNCED AT THE ABORTED SWEARING-IN CEREMONY FOR 2/25. ONLY THE PRESIDENT'S PARTY, THE MRND, AND ITS CURRENT SUPPORTERS, THE LIBERAL PARTY FACTION OF JUSTIN MUGENZI AND THE MDR HARDLINERS, ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND.
- 8. (U) RIGHT-WING RADIO RTLM IS REPORTEDLY ALREADY

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PREPARING THE PUBLIC FOR POSSIBLE CHANGES. THE MESSAGE REPORTEDLY IS: RWANDA NEEDS THE TRANSITION INSTITUTIONS. THE CURRENT AND FUTURE PRIME MINISTERS ARE KEEPING THE INSTITUTIONS FROM BEING INSTALLED. THEREFORE, THEY SHOULD BE REPLACED SO THE INSTITUTIONS CAN BE FORMED.

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7. (C) OBSERVERS AWARE OF THIS POSSIBLE POLITICAL GAMBIT OF THE MDR FACTION OPPOSED TO TWAGIRAMUNGU BELIEVE IT IS UNLIKELY TO RESOLVE THE POLITICAL IMPASSE. THE RPF IS UNLIKELY TO SUBMIT TO SUCH MACHINATIONS, AND ITS PATIENCE MAY BE RUNNING OUT.

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